REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 29, 2008 (the "*Office Action*"). In the *Office Action*, Claims 1-17 are pending and rejected in this Application. Applicants have amended Claim 1, 7, and 13. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case in view of the following remarks.

Section 112 Rejections

The Examiner rejects Claims 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner states that the limitation reciting that "each unique attribute name corresponds to a different object class" is contradictory to the claim limitation reciting "a plurality of object classes, the plurality of object classes having a plurality of attributes." (*Office Action*, page 2). Without conceding the veracity of the rejection, Applicants have amended Claim 13 to advance prosecution of this case. Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 13 is definite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of Claims 13-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

Section 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejects Claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,834,286 issued to Srinivasan, et al., ("*Srinivasan*") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0002955 issued to Gadbois ("*Gadbois*").

Independent Claim 1 of the present Application, as amended, recites:

> A method for use in a Web Services system, comprising:
> providing a Web Services Directory having object classes and attributes; and
> defining attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class, each attribute unique to the specific object class to which the attribute belongs; and

generating an index based on the specific attribute types

The Office Action rejects Claim 1 and contends that the limitations of Claim 1 are disclosed by *Srinivasan* and *Gadbois*. However, neither *Srinivasan* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in combination, disclose, teach, or suggest "defining attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class, each attribute unique to the specific object class to which the attribute belongs," as recited in Claim 1. *Srinivasan*, which is relied upon as the primary reference, is directed to representing directory attributes in a relational database system. (*Srinivasan*, Column 4, lines 34-37). However, there is no suggestion that the each attribute is unique to specific object class to which the attribute belongs. In fact, *Srinivasan* teaches a completely different approach stating: "objects from different object classes may contain the same attribute type." *See Srinivasan*, Column 10, lines 56-57. For example, Figure 1 of *Srinivasan* illustrates two different object classes: 1) a "Department" object class; and 2) a "Person" object class. Both the "Department" object class and the "Person" object class of *Srinivasan* include the same attribute type "State," and therefore *Srinivasan* does not disclose, teach, or suggest that "each attribute [is] unique to the specific object class to which the attribute belongs," as required by Claim 1. *Gadbois*, which is relied upon only for disclosure of a web services directory, does not cure the deficiencies of *Srinivasan* identified above.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully contend that neither *Srinivasan* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in combination, disclose, teach, or suggest the limitations of Claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully reconsideration and allowance of Claim 1, together with Claims 2-6 that depend on Claim 1.

Similar to Claim 1, Claim 7 includes limitations related to "defining attributes of a specific type which correspond to a specific object class, each attribute unique to the specific object class to which the attribute belongs." For at least those reasons discussed above with regard to Claim 1, Applicants respectfully contend that that neither *Srinivasan* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in combination, disclose, teach, or suggest the limitations of Claim 7. Thus, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of Claim 7, together with Claims 8-12 that depend on Claim 7.

The Examiner rejects Claims 13, 15, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,236,988 issued to Aldred ("*Aldred*") in view of *Gadbois*. The Examiner rejects Claims 14 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aldred* in view of *Gadbois* as applied to Claims 13, 15, and 17 above, and further in view of *Srinivasan*.

Independent Claim 13 of the present Application, as amended, recites:

> A method for use in a Web Services system, comprising:
> providing a Web Services Directory having a plurality of object classes, the plurality of object classes having a plurality of attributes, each attribute unique to an object class;
> defining a plurality of unique names for each of the plurality of attributes, each of the plurality of unique names uniquely identifying the object class to which a particular attribute belongs; and
> generating an index based on the plurality of unique names

The Office Action rejects Claim 13 and contends that the limitations of Claim 13 are disclosed by *Aldred* and *Gadbois*. However, neither *Aldred* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in combination, disclose, teach, or suggest "each attribute unique to the specific object class to which the attribute belongs," as recited in Claim 13. *Aldred*, which is relied upon as the primary reference, merely discloses "a conventional LDAP directory" in Figure 1. (*Aldred*, Column 2, lines 14-15). "The contents of this schema object comprise a set of object class definitions and a set of structural rules, as shown for the above example in FIG. 2." (*Aldred*, Column 1, lines 22-24). As disclosed in *Aldred* and shown in FIG. 2, "[t]he class definitions include a) a list of both mandatory (M) and optional (O) attributes for each object class allowed in the directory; and b) a list defining the hierarchical relationships between object classes and hence the inheritance rules for class definitions." (*Aldred*, Column 1, lines 24-29). However, there is no suggestion that the "each attribute is unique to specific object class to which the attribute belongs," as required by Claim 13. *Gadbois*, which is relied upon only for disclosure of a web services directory, does not cure the deficiencies of *Aldred* identified above.

As another example of the deficiencies of the proposed *Aldred-Gadbois* combination, neither *Aldred* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in combination, disclose, teach, or suggest "defining a plurality of unique names for each of the plurality of attributes, each of the plurality of unique names uniquely identifying the object class to which a particular attribute belongs," as recited in Claim 13. As discussed above, *Aldred* merely discloses "a conventional LDAP directory" in Figure 1. (*Aldred*, Column 2, lines 14-15). "The contents of this schema object comprise a set of object class definitions and a set of structural rules, as shown for the above example in FIG. 2." (*Aldred*, Column 1, lines 22-24). However, there is no suggestion in *Aldred* of "defining a plurality of unique names for each of the plurality of attributes, each of the plurality of unique names uniquely identifying the object class to which a particular attribute belongs," as required by Claim 13.

With regard to naming, *Aldred* merely discloses that in a conventional LDAP directory "[t]he structural rules control the arrangement of objects in the directory hierarchy and comprise a list of the allowed child object classes to each parent class and, for each such combination, the naming attributers to be used to provide a unique relative distinguished name (RDN) for such an object." (*Aldred*, Column 1, lines 32-37). Although *Aldred* discloses that the RDN "provides a unique name for an object at that point in the directory hierarchy," *Aldred* further clarifies that the RDN "is formed by a combination of one or more of the object's attributes and as can be seen from the naming attributes for employees, many different attributes may be used for an object at any one point in the tree." (*Aldred*, Column 1, lines 38-44). Thus, the disclosed naming scheme is used to name an object rather than an attribute. Further, the name provide includes a combination of the object's attributes. There is no disclosure of "defining a plurality of unique names for each of the plurality of attributes, each of the plurality of unique names uniquel y identifying the object class to which a particular attribute belongs," as required by Claim 13. *Gadbois*, which is relied upon only for disclosure of a web services directory, does not cure the deficiencies of *Aldred* identified above.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully contend that neither *Aldred* nor *Gadbois*, alone or in combination, disclose, teach, or suggest the limitations of Claim 13.

Thus, Applicants respectfully reconsideration and allowance of Claim 13, together with Claims 14-17 that depend on Claim 13.

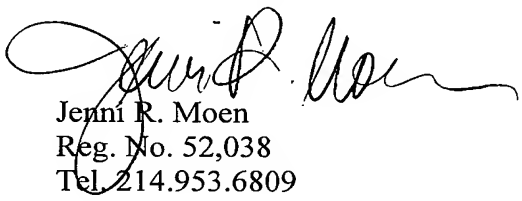
CONCLUSION

Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending Claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

No fees are believed due; however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credits to Deposit Account No. 02-0384 of Baker Botts L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
Attorneys for Applicants



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